

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 03908 121013Z

12

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /016 W
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R 120720Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4063

INFO USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 3908

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, RO

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL WRITING PROGRAM

REF: BUCHAREST 3844; STATE 185083

1. WRITERS' UNION PRESIDENT VIRGIL TEODORESCU AND SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ION HOBANA ADVISED PAO THAT UNION IS UNABLE TO SEND PARTICIPANTS TO ARRIVE FOR OPENING OF WORKSHOP ON SEPTEMBER 1. ON BEHALF OF UNION, THEY STATED THAT THERE IS A "POSSIBILITY" THAT TWO WRITERS COULD ARRIVE IN IOWA ON OCTOBER 1ST TO TAKE PART IN THE REMAINING WEEKS WORKSHOP (PRESUMABLY THROUGH JANUARY 1). WE ARE INCLINED TO RECOMMEND ACCEPTANCE OF THE UNION'S PROPOSAL IN VIEW OF THE EMPHASIS TEODORESCU AND HOBANA PLACED ON SELECTING "YOUNGER WRITERS" AND FACT THAT PROJECT IS VERY EFFECTIVE FOR CONTACTS WITH THE LITERARY CIRCLES HERE. ADVISE WHETHER FEASIBLE FOR TWO ROMANIAN WRITERS TO ARRIVE OCTOBER 1.

2. RE PAUL ENGLE'S CABLE TO AUREL RAU: TEODORESCU AND HOBANA ASKED WHETHER INVITATION WAS "PERSONAL" OR "OFFICIAL" AND EMPHASIZED PREFERENCE FOR SELECTION PROCEDURES USED IN PAST, I.E., SENDING SIDE NOMINATES AND RECEIVING SIDE APPROVES (OR HAS RIGHT TO DISAPPROVE). TEODORESCU AND HOBANA ALSO EXPRESSED UNDISGUISED DISAPPROVAL OF RAU AS NOMINEE AND LEFT CLEAR IMPRESSION UNION WOULD ADVISE HIM NOT TO ACCEPT INVITATION.

TEODORESCU AND HOBANA STATED UNION PREFERS TO SEND

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"YOUNGER WRITERS" TO THE WORKSHOP AND INTENDS TO DO SO IF

OCTOBER 1ST ARRIVAL IS APPROVED. WHILE ATTEMPTS TO MAKE
DISTINCTION BETWEEN "PERSONAL" AND "OFFICIAL" INVITATION
COULD LEAD TO POINTLESS SEMANTICS, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF
ENGLE COULD PROVIDE US WITH BRIEF EXPLANATION TO RESPOND
TO UNIONS' REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION.
BARNES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BUCHAR03908
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750277-1222
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750858/aaaabymk.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BUCHAREST 3844, 75 STATE 185083
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <21 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNATIONAL WRITING PROGRAM
TAGS: OEXC, RO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006